4. *Scientific Work.*—A number of foreign plants of economic and ornamental value were introduced, acclimatised and propagated for distribution. These include various varieties of dahlias from Holland, gladioli from England, heliotropes from Naples and chrysanthemums from Allahabad.

Experimental work on fruit plants was carried on at the Krishnaraj Sagar orchard as also the fruit nursery at Lal-Bagh and the Fruit Research Station, Hessarghatta. Experiments on vegetable growing were conducted at the Horticultural Farm, Bangalore and at Jeevanrayankatte Farm, Mysore.

Experiments on apples, mangoes, pine apples and figs have yielded very satisfactory results.

5. *Maintenance and Improvement of Gardens.*—All the gardens under the control of the department were maintained in an efficient condition and several minor works were carried out in the more important parks and gardens. Stone pergolas were provided along the walks in the Cubbon Park and the waste weir of the Lal-Bagh tank and the roads in the Lal-Bagh were improved. Scientific interest in the Lal-Bagh was maintained, 15 new varieties of plants having been planted during the year. As a centre of recreation, both the Cubbon Park and the Lal-Bagh, maintained their popularity in Bangalore, while the Curzon Park and Gordon Park in Mysore provided similar attraction in Mysore. Various improvements were effected in the minor gardens also and special attention was devoted to the garden attached to the Railway Colony in Bangalore. The Daria Dowlat Bagh and the Gumbaz Gardens in Seringapatam were kept well and attracted holiday visitors.

6. *Fig Cultivation at Ganjam.*—Technical advice was freely given for the maintenance of fig plants. A number of young plants were issued to growers free of cost. Vegetable seeds were also given free for inter-cultivation and to encourage the cultivation of vegetables.

7. *Mysore Horticultural Society.*—The Society continued its numerous activities as a centre of spreading horticultural knowledge. The response to the annual garden competition and the Horticultural Shows was entirely satisfactory. The Mango Show, held with the purpose of introducing some of the late varieties of mangoes grown in the east coast of India into the Mysore State, evoked special interest and 132 varieties were displayed.

8. *Fruit Research Experimental Station, Hessarghatta.*—During the year the whole area was fenced and laid out scientifically for experimental purposes. The area planted with apples is nearly 20 acres. Pine apples were planted in 2½ acres and several varieties of figs in about 1½ acres of land.

9. *Nandi Hill Station.*—The hill station continued to be popular and attracted 4,133 visitors (4,663); the slight fall in number was due to the early advent of monsoon conditions.

10. The question of reorganising the cadre of the department to cope with its increased activities was under the active consideration of Government and has since been sanctioned.

The work of the Superintendent and his staff during the year was quite satisfactory.

B. T. KESAVIENGAR,
Chief Secretary to Government.

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT

Appoints Mr. R. Sitaramiah, Municipal Councillor, as a member on the Board of Visitors to the Local Fund Dispensary, Birur.

READ—

Government Order No. G. 8614—Med. 235-37-2, dated 28th April 1939, sanctioning the reconstitution of the Board of Visitors for the District Hospitals and certain Local Fund Dispensaries in the State for a period of two years and appointing the gentlemen noted below as members of the Board of Visitors to the Local Fund Dispensary, Birur, in the Kadur District:—

1. The Vice-President, Birur Municipality.
2. Mr. K. M. Basappa, Merchant, Birur.
3. Mr. Zainulabudin, Landlord.

2. Letter No. C. 438-15, dated 25th November 1939, from the Senior Surgeon in Mysore, stating that consequent on the resignation of one Mr. D. V. Halappa, Vice-President, Birur Municipality, and the succession of Mr. K. M. Basappa, one of the members of the Board of Visitors, appointed as per Government Order, read above, as Vice-President, a vacancy has arisen on the Board of Visitors of the Local Fund Dispensary, and recommending in the circumstances explained, that Mr. R. Sitaramiah, Municipal Councillor, be appointed in the vacancy.

ORDER NO. G. 5230-3—MED. 130-39-4, DATED BANGALORE, THE 11TH DECEMBER 1939.

The recommendation of the Senior Surgeon is approved.

P. H. KRISHNA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIAT

Letter of Credit System in the Public Works Department.

ORDER NO. FL. 3272-3342—G. F. 203-39-1, DATED BANGALORE, THE 7TH DECEMBER 1939.

Under the existing arrangement obtaining in the Public Works Department, the executive (Disbursing) officers are themselves charged with the responsibility of taking steps to see that the expenditure on works is kept within the limits of budget grants. In practice, however, it is found that large excesses are incurred year after year and the present arrangement of permitting pass orders to be encashed in treasuries without restrictions has resulted in excesses over budget grants also being incurred.

2. Measures have now become necessary that would at least ensure that the total budget grant allowed to a division is not permitted to be exceeded by an unrestricted drawal from treasuries without limit. Primarily, two definite objects require to be secured—

(*i*) to see that the Public Works Administration properly enforces the financial responsibility of its spending officers to avoid excesses over grants; and

(*ii*) that such excesses, when they do occur even over the total grants, are not allowed to go unnoticed and that prompt action is taken to regularise such expenditure.

3. In the circumstances, Government consider that the introduction of the system of Letter of Credit should be tried as an experimental measure in respect of two divisions for the present.

4. The Public Accounts Committee of 1937-38, which examined the matter, have also favoured the desirability of the initiation of such an arrangement and have suggested its adoption in a few selected divisions to start with.

5. Government are accordingly pleased to direct that the Letter of Credit system be introduced for the present in two divisions—Buildings Division, Bangalore, and the Headquarters Range, Mysore —with effect from 1st January 1940.

6. The currency of the Letter of Credit will be one half-year, and the unspent balance relating to the first half-year may be permitted to be utilised during the second half of the same year.

7. The amount of the Letter of Credit may be fixed by the Comptroller in consultation with the Chief Engineer, with due regard to the appropriations available for the several works to be taken up by the divisions under the several sources, such as the Irrigation Cess Fund, the Railway Cess Fund, the District Fund, Donations, Contributions, etc. Under Donations and Contributions, if the Executive Engineer or the Divisional Officer expects any great variation, he may